

REMARKS

The Examiner has mailed a restriction requirement for pending Claims 1-44, listing the following group classifications:

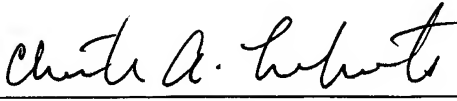
Group	Claim(s)	Description
I	1-10	nucleic acids encoding an isoform of IL-32
II	11-18	isoforms of IL-32
III	19-26	antibodies that bind to exons 3 or 4 of IL-32
IV	27-30	methods of inducing TNF α production using IL-32
V	31-37	methods of administering an IL-32 antibody
VI	38-41	methods for screening inhibitors of IL-32
VII	42-44	methods of administering IL-32

Applicants hereby elect to prosecute the claims of Group I, *without traverse*, and elect the nucleic acid of SEQ ID NO:3 as a species for examination purposes. Coincident with these elections, Applicants hereby amend Claims 1, 5-9, and cancel Claims 3, 4 and 11-44, in order to further the prosecution of the present application and Applicants' business interests, yet without acquiescing to the Examiner's arguments. Applicants reserve the right to prosecute the original, similar, or broader claims in one or more future application(s). In particular, Applicants have amended Claim 1 to recite a nucleic acid comprising "exon 7 in substantially contiguous association with exon 8." Support for this amendment can be found but is not limited to the diagram of a primary transcript of the IL-32 alpha isoform, indicating that the intron between exons 7 and 8 is excised to produce the corresponding mRNA, but not the mRNAs of the IL-32 beta, gamma and delta isoforms. Thus, the amended claim set reads upon Group I, and does not include new matter.

Applicants respectfully request consideration of the references listed on the Information Disclosure Statement submitted herewith, before the mailing of a first substantive Office Action.

However, should the Examiner believe that a telephone interview would aid in the prosecution of this application, Applicants encourage the Examiner to call the undersigned collect.

Dated: March 5, 2008

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